



State of Wisconsin
Department of Financial Institutions

Jim Doyle, **Governor**

Lorrie Keating Heinemann, **Secretary**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 22, 2003

Cheryl Weiss
608-264-7875

**Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions Announce Voting for Wisconsin's
Commemorative Quarter**

(Madison) Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) announced today the official design candidates for the Wisconsin State Quarter from the three themes that were sent to the U.S. Mint earlier this year.

"The variety of themes that the 23 member Commemorative Quarter Council recommended explicitly shows the unique character of our state," Lorrie Keating Heinemann, DFI Secretary said. "I am honored to present the following designs which were created from those themes to represent Wisconsin."

An earlier vote was held to choose the top three themes that best represent Wisconsin. Those three themes were sent to the U.S. Mint who then turned the project over to their engravers. The engravers worked with Wisconsin's ideas to create drawings that would work on the back of the quarter. The Citizen Commemorative Coin Advisory Committee and the U.S. Fine Arts Commission reviewed the drawings of the engravers. The Secretary of the Treasury then reviewed and gave his approval on the remaining coin designs. The final step is where we are at today, and that's for the citizens of Wisconsin to choose one design to represent our state on the quarter.

Wisconsin, the thirtieth state, will be honored in 2004 through the minting of its State Quarter. This is a unique opportunity for all of Wisconsin to promote and grow in an understanding of our rich history, culture, geography and resources. Take this opportunity to cast your vote for the theme that you feel best represents the heritage of our state.

The official designs, available for voting on the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) web site starting **Today** and going through **Friday**, are based on the following themes:

- Scenic Wisconsin
- Agriculture, Barns and Dairy
- Early Exploration

"I am honored that the citizens of Wisconsin have the opportunity to be a part of history by choosing the design they feel best represents their state's history," said Keating Heinemann.

-more-

Office of the Secretary

Mail: PO Box 8861 Madison, WI 53708-8861

Voice: (608) 264-7800

Fax: (608) 261-4DFI

Courier: 345 W. Washington Ave. 5th Floor Madison, WI 53703

TTY: (608) 266-8818

Internet: www.wdfi.org

If you do not have access to a computer you may go to your public library and cast your vote there. Vote once for the design you think should represent Wisconsin. The results of the voting will be a key factor in selecting the design that will represent Wisconsin.

The 50 State Quarters Program celebrates the history and heritage of the 50 United States in the order which they ratified the Constitution and joined the Union. Wisconsin will be the last quarter honored in 2004. It will follow the release of Michigan, Florida, Texas, and Iowa all to be released in 2004.

To find out more about the Wisconsin Commemorative Quarter project, and to vote on what you believe best represents Wisconsin, visit DFI's web site at www.wdfi.org

-end-